Pol 14 Viet S (1566)

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

XR Pol 15-2 Viet S

CONFIDENTIAL 573

PAGE 01 SAIGON 13965 301710Z

53
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-06 H-02 INR-06 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-14 UPW-01 IO-11 AID-20 RSR-01 /094 W

047235

O R 301540Z AUG71
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9363
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
CINCPAC
AMCONSUL DANANG
USDEL FRANCE
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 13965

SUBJ: LOWER HOUSE ELECTION RESULTS
PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS

REF: A. SAIGON 13920
B. SAIGON 13847

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. OUR FIRST ANALYSIS OF ALMOST COMPLETE ELECTION RESULTS SHOWS THAT THE LOWER HOUSE IS LIKELY TO HAVE A MODEST PRO-GOVERNMENT MAJORITY. THE PRELIMINARY FIGURES NOW AVAILABLE FOR 156 WINNERS OUT OF THE TOTAL OF 159 REVEALS 71 PERSONS CLEARLY IDENTIFIABLE AS PROGOVERNMENT, AND 58 IN THE OPPOSITION, WITH 27 EITHER UNKNOWN OR INDEPENDENT. A MAJORITY OF THE INDEPENDENTS WILL RPOBABLY END UP IN GOVERNMENT RANKS.

2. WINNDERS AFFILIATED WITH THE PROGRESSIVE NATIONALIST MOVEMENT, OF WHICH THERE ARE 19, HAVE BEEN ARBITRARILY CLASSIFIED WITH THE OPPOSITION, SINCE THAT IS THE FORMAL STANCE OF THE PARTY. HOWEVER, ABOUT HALF OF THE PNM WINNERS HAD GOVERNMENT SUPPORT AND MANY OBSERVERS BELIEVE THEY WILL JOIN A PRO-

(2)

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/HR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 1/26/82
RDS ☐ or XD: ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☑ RELEASABLE ☑
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

SA 1600 13965 8/30/71

CONFIDENTIAL



GOVERNMENT GROUP IN THE NEW LOWER HOUSE IF THIEU NEEDS THEIR SUPPORT. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE WORKER-FARMER PARTY, FOR WHICH WE HAVE IDENTIFIED 12 WINNERS, IS GENERALLY CONSIDERED PRO-GOVERNMENT BUT ITS CHAIRMAN, TRAN QUOC BUU, IS APPARENTLY DISSATISFIED WITH THE FACT THE GOVERNMENT WORKED TO DEFEAT SOME OF HIS CANDIDATES, AND HE COULD ASK A PRICE FOR HIS SUPPORT. IN SUM, THIEU WILL PROBABLY BE ABLE TO ORGANIZE A MAJORITY, BUT IT WILL REQUIRE CONSIDERABLE POLITICAL EFFORT TO ASSURE ACTION ON ADMINISTRATION BILLS.

3. WINNERS IDENTIFIED SO FAR GIVE THE AN QUANG BUDDHISTS 20 SEATS OR SO, THE PROGRESSIVE NATIONALIST MOVEMENT 19, THE WORKER-FARMER PARTY 12, THE REVOLUTIONARY DAI VIET PARTY AND TUONG FACTION HOA HAO 7 EACH AND LESSER NUMBERS TO OTHERS. AN QUANG SWEPT ALL THE SEATS IN SOME MR I CONSTITUENCIES (DANANG, THUA THIEN) WHERE INTERNAL DIVISIONS HAD BEEN EXPECTED TO LET SOME PRO-GOVERNMENT DEPUTIES SLIP THROUGH. THESE ORGANIZED PARTIES AND OTHERS WILL PROBABLY TRY TO PLAY A GREATER ROLE IN THE NEW LOWER HOUSE THAN POLITICAL PARTIES PLAYED IN THE OLD.

4. SO FAR 35 INCUMBENTS HAVE BEEN RE-ELECTED, OF WHOM 18 ARE IN THE OPPOSITION. THUS OPPOSITION DEPUTIES ARE FARING BETTER THAN PRO-GOVERNMENT FIGURES ON A PROPORTIONAL BASIS.

5. SAIGON VOTERS AS EXPECTED PRODUCED A HEAVILY OPPOSITION CROP OF WINNERS (7 OUT OF 11), INCLUDING SUCH WELL-KNOWN FIGURES AS INCUMBENTS HO VAN MINH, LY QUY CHUNG, NGUYEN HUU CHUNG, HO NGOC CU AND HO NGOC NHUAN, AS WELL AS PROMINENT EX-DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER TRAN VAN TUYEN( SOUTHERN VNQDD ).

6. ESPECIALLY NOTEWORTHY IS THE DEFEAT OF OPPOSITION DEPUTIES NGO CONG DUC IN VINH BINH PROVINCE, DUONG VAN BA IN BAC LIEU PROVINCE, AND TRUONG GAI KY SAM IN BINH THUAN PROVINCE. IN BOTH VINH BINH AND BAC LIEU SOLID SLATES OF PRO-GOVERNMENT DEPUTIES WERE ELECTED, IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT BOTH DUC AND BA WERE CONSIDERED POPULAR AND LIKELY TO WIN IN A FAIR ELECTION. THE WINNERS IN BINH THUAN PROVINCE ARE LARGELY UNKNOWN, AND IT MAY BE A THIRD EXAMPLE OF HEAVY INTERVENTION. DUC AND BA ARE ALREADY ALLEGING FRAUD (SEPTEL).

7. REF B INDICATED THAT THERE WERE SOME FLAGRANT CASES OF GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION PRIOR TO ELECTION DAY. THERE ARE



SANITIZED

CONFIDENTIAL



LIKELY TO BE A NUMBER OF OTHER COMPLAINTS OF IRREGULARITIES AND FURTHER PUBLIC CLAIMS OF FRAUD.
BUNKER